

Times of Mass, Intentions and Services
Palm Sunday Year B – 28th March 2021

| | <u>English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's</u> | <u>St Joseph's</u> | <u>St Bede's</u> | <u>Feast Days this week</u> |
|---------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Sat 27th | <u>6:00pm</u> Deceased Members of the Watson Family RIP | _____ | _____ | Sunday Vigil Mass |
| Sun 28th | <u>10:30am</u> <u>Live-streamed</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish) | _____ | _____ | PALM SUNDAY |
| Mon 29th | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Tue 30th | _____ | _____ | <u>9:30am</u> 90 th Birthday of Pauline Blackwell (MA) | _____ |
| Wed 31st | <u>9:30am Live-streamed</u> Betty Sparks RIP (MH) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Thur 1st | <u>7:00pm Live-streamed</u> Mass of the Last Supper Mary Igoe RIP | _____ | _____ | MAUNDY THURSDAY |
| Fri 2nd | <u>3:00pm Live-streamed</u> Celebration of the Passion | <u>3:00pm</u> Celebration of the Passion | <u>3:00pm</u> Celebration of the Passion | GOOD FRIDAY |
| Sat 3rd | <u>6:00pm Live-streamed</u> Pro Populo (People of the Parish) | _____ | _____ | HOLY SATURDAY |
| Sun 4th | _____ | <u>10:30am</u> Bert Barnett RIP (VC) | <u>9:00am</u> Michael Preston RIP | EASTER SUNDAY |

Sacrament of Reconciliation
By Appointment – call 01642 806469



Parish Family Stockton Mass by Phone Service You can now listen to Father Jeff celebrating Sunday Mass. This is available after 12:00 Noon by telephone on 01642 130032. Calls are charged at local rate. There may be a short delay so please be patient; the recording will then start to play.

**If you would like to reserve a place at the Saturday Vigil Mass or the Sunday Morning Mass,
please ring or text 07716 944610 by 7:30 pm on the Thursday.
Please leave your name, contact number and the number of places requested;
you will be informed if there is a place available for you by Friday evening.**

Bulletin Items: If you would like a notice included in the next bulletin, please email parishnewsletterstockton@gmail.com by **Tuesday evening** at the latest. Alternatively, post through the letterbox at English Martyrs and Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery, Redhill Road, Roseworth, Stockton-on-Tees TS19 9BY. Please remember to add your contact details in case we have a query.

ST. HILDA PARTNERSHIP



English Martyrs and
Ss. Peter and Paul's



St. Bede's



St. Joseph's

P A R I S H N E W S L E T T E R

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Year B – 28th March 2021

Clergy

Parish Priest: Fr. Jeffrey Dodds
Assistant Priest: Fr. Oliver Keyes
Deacons: Jeffrey Parkes, Paul Hargreaves
Retired Priest: Fr. Pat McKenna

Parish Office

Hours: Tuesday to Friday 10.00am till 2:00pm
Contact: Gill Hall Tel. 01642 806469
Email: parishfamilystockton@gmail.com

Internet

Parish YouTube: [Stockton Parish Family](https://www.youtube.com/StocktonParishFamily)
Facebook page: [@ParishFamilyStocktonRC](https://www.facebook.com/ParishFamilyStocktonRC)
Parish website: www.parishfamilystockton.org.uk
Diocesan website: www.rcdhn.org.uk

“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!” Mark 11:9

In today's Gospel readings we are faced a contradiction of emotions and experiences. We begin our Mass by listening to the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem with the people welcoming him with great joy. “Hosanna!” they cry out. “Hosanna in the Highest!” Jesus is well received and is treated as he should have been. The people were full of excitement and showed their respect by laying their cloaks on the floor before him.

But this excitement quickly changes to shock and horror, as we enter more deeply into our readings. The Gospel culminates with Jesus dying on the Cross crying out “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” And with that, “Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.” At that moment all of us gathered kneel in silence, as we ponder the reality of Christ's death.

Just like those that welcomed Jesus I often wonder how fickle we are. How we can change our minds in just one short week. What happened to all the people who were shouting and praising him as he entered into Jerusalem? What happens to us as one minute we praise him and worship him and then we kill him to follow our own ways.

But we must remember that at any time, Jesus could have exercised his divine power and refused to embrace his Cross. But he didn't. Instead, he willingly embraced the suffering and rejection.

Why? Because the Father willed it to show his love for us. Jesus didn't suffer begrudgingly or even with regret. He embraced this week willingly, choosing it as his own will.

I pray then that this week as we reflect upon these readings, that we will receive a deeper understanding of how much we are loved. Knowing no matter how fickle we can be, all is not lost for us. As nothing can ultimately and permanently steal away our joy, if we make our home in Christ Jesus, and let him transform us, by his glorious embrace of His own Cross.

Wishing you a Blessed Holy Week!

Deacon Jeff

Parish News

Sick and in Need of Prayer

Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family who are ill.

Recent Bereavements

Please pray for Kathleen Tyrrell, Molly Byrnes RIP and all those who have died recently. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Weekday and Weekend Masses:

I would encourage you to attend Mass during the week at the times advertised. For those of you who wish to attend on a Sunday, please remember to book your place, but be aware that we MUST adhere to social-distancing and so there may be fewer places available.

We have a duty to play our part in bringing this virus under control, whilst continuing to provide the best service to our communities. Please make sure you follow the guidance and advice from our Parish Marshalls and keep yourself and others safe. *Fr. Jeff*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Marshalls are required to be in attendance when our churches are open. Without them we would not be able to open. The Marshalls are there to help and advise you:

- ✓ To assist with the mandatory Test& Trace system, please give your name and contact telephone number to the Marshall at the door.
- ✓ Remember to sanitise your hands before you enter church.
- ✓ A Marshall will advise you where you are to sit.
- ✓ If you wish to light a candle, please do so before you sit down.
- ✓ Please do not block access to benches.
- ✓ Please remember to sanitise your hands before you leave church.

Let's keep everyone safe. *Fr. Jeff*

Booking for Easter Week Services

Please remember to book your seats for the following Easter services:

Maundy Thursday, Mass of the Last Supper, 7.00pm 1 April at English Martyrs Ss Peter & Paul

Good Friday Passion Service 3.00pm 2 April at English Martyrs Ss Peter & Paul, St Bede's and St Joseph's

Easter Vigil Mass 6.00pm Sat 3 April at English Martyrs Ss Peter & Paul

Easter Sunday Mass 4 April 9.00am at St Bede's, 10.30am at St Joseph's

Please text or ring 07716 944610 **by 7.30pm Wed 31 March** to reserve your seats.

S.V.P. We hope you are all managing at this difficult time. We cannot make our usual visits now but if anyone who is housebound would like someone to talk to, please give one of our members a 'phone call' or alternatively please contact the parish office on 01642 806469.

CAFOD: Walk for Water - A message from Deacon Jeff.

I will be taking up the Walk for Water challenge this Lent by walking: 10,000 steps a day - *My way. Every day. For 40 days.* If you would like to support by prayers or by helping to raise vital funds for the world's poorest people then:

Sponsorship/Donations can be made in any of the following ways: Visiting my Just Giving fundraising page link also on the Parish Website <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/dj-walk-for-water>. Envelope Sponsorship donations marked "Walk for Water" dropped into the Presbytery. Or Sponsorship form at the back of Church. Thank you for helping to end water poverty. Deacon Jeff.

St Bede's Red Mission Boxes:- Could you please ring John Evans on 01642 895739, who will arrange to collect your Box/Donation. As all charities, The Missions have suffered financially over the past year, so please be as generous as possible. Thank you.

News from Uganda

Fr. Vincent says they are still in lockdown, schools are closed and they do not have the vaccine yet. All the harvest from last season is almost used up so hunger in families is bad. From the first week of Lent as many as 5 families a day have come to Father begging for food. Using money he had received from the Mission Fund he bought 400 kilos of maize and 373 kilos of beans, but now he is left with very little to help them with. Now he only gives to families with young children. Many little ones are eating once a day. Please pray for Fr. Vincent and his people.

Holy Places: There will be a second collection for **The Holy Places** this weekend, 27/28th March 2021.

Partnership News – taking in Hartlepool, Billingham and Stockton

Lenten Alms - St Cuthbert's Care: I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kindness throughout the pandemic - it has been truly heart-warming. Parish support makes all the difference, allowing us to go that extra mile in ensuring we provide outstanding care and peace of mind to families and loved ones. If you are able to do so, please may I ask that you consider supporting our work once more. Thank you.

Worldwide Church News

Pope Francis' Monthly Intentions for March: Sacrament of Reconciliation

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

...and now for some Light Relief..

Jamie's 'Paws' for Thought: Many times a day I realise how much my own life is built upon the labours of others, and how earnestly I must exert myself in order to give in return as much as I have received. Albert Einstein



Prayer and Liturgy News

Palm Sunday – Year B – 28th March 2021

Isaiah 50:4-7

First Reading

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

Psalm:

1. All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.'

2. Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet
I can count every one of my bones.

Second Reading

21(22):8-9,17-20,23-24

3. They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me!

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory, revere him, Israel's sons.

Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel

Mark 15:1-39

First thing in the morning, the chief priests together with the elders and scribes – in short, the whole Sanhedrin – had their plan ready. They had Jesus bound and took him away and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned him: Are you the king of the Jews? He answered, It is you who say it. And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again: Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you! But, to Pilate's amazement, Jesus made no further reply. At festival time Pilate used to release a prisoner for them, anyone they asked for. Now a man called Barabbas was then in prison with the rioters who had committed murder during the uprising. When the crowd went up and began to ask Pilate the customary favour, Pilate answered them Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews? For he realised it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. The chief priests, however, had incited the crowd to demand that he should release Barabbas for them instead. Then Pilate spoke again: But in that case, what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews? They shouted back, Crucify him! Pilate asked them, Why? What harm has he done? But they shouted all the louder, Crucify him! So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified. The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him up in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him. Hail, king of the Jews! They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes. They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull. They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription giving the charge against him read: 'The King of the Jews.' And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left. The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said, Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross! The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. They said, He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe. Even those who were crucified with him taunted him. When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani? which means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this, they said Listen, he is calling on Elijah. Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink, saying: Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down. But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front had seen how he had died, and he said, In truth this man was a son of God.

Spiritual Communion Prayer - My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as already being there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.